

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 183720
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY D/LOS:TOKADA:LB

APPROVED BY D/LOS:GTAFT

S/S -O:RCASTRODALE

S/AR:GALDRICH (INFO)

-----122981 201848Z /43

O 201842Z JUL 78 ZFF6

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL SAO PAULO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 183720

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S COMMENTS ON TOT IN 1976

1. REFERENCE IS MADE TO ALAN JAMES' TELECON WITH GEORGE
TAFT ON JULY 18, 1978.

2. ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1976, IN NEW YORK, SECRETARY KISSINGER
HELD A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON COMMITTEE I ISSUES WITH
UNCLOS DELEGATES. AMBASSADOR RAMIRO SARAIRO GUERREIRO AND
SERGIO MARTINS THOMPSON-FLORES REPRESENTED BRAZIL.
AMBASSADOR AMADOU CISSE OF SENEGAL INDICATED THAT MANY
DELEGATES QUESTIONED WHETHER UNDER A PARALLEL SYSTEM THE
ENTERPRISE WOULD BE GIVEN THE TECHNOLOGY AND FINANCIAL
RESOURCES NECESSARY TO FUNCTION. IN A LENGTHY RESPONSE,
SECRETARY KISSINGER STATED THE U.S. WAS INFLEXIBLE ON THE
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PARALLEL SYSTEM AND THAT ACCESS SHOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY
AUTOMATIC FOR THE STATE OR PRIVATE ENTERPRISE SEGMENT.
HE INDICATED THE U.S. WAS PREPARED TO WORK OUT A METHOD OF
FINANCING THAT WOULD ENSURE THE ENTERPRISE OF SIMULTANEOUSLY
ENTERING MINING OR SHORTLY AFTER THE OTHER SIDE INITIATED
OPERATIONS. HE ADDED, "WITH RESPECT TO THE FINANCING OF
THE ENTERPRISE, AND THIS IS WITHIN THE SAME MATRIX AS OUR

OTHER COMMENTS, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE
TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY TO THE ENTERPRISE. WE RECOGNIZE

THAT THE FINANCING OF THE ENTERPRISE WOULD NOT BE EFFECTIVE
UNLESS CONSIDERATION OF THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY IS ALSO
INVOLVED." SECRETARY KISSINGER CONTINUED, "I HAVE JUST
INDICATED THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL BE MAKING A SERIOUS
EFFORT TO PUT THE ENTERPRISE ON AN OPERATIONAL BASIS, TO
PROVIDE IT MONEY, PUT IT IN THE POSITION TO ACQUIRE
TECHNOLOGY AND HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO UNILATERALLY ENGAGE
IN SEABED MINING ACTIVITIES. WE ARE OFFERING TO PUT THE
ENTERPRISE INTO BUSINESS AND TO GIVE IT TECHNOLOGY FOR THE
SAKE OF ACHIEVING AN ACCEPTABLE TREATY. THE UNITED STATES
WILL ACQUIRE NO COMMERCIAL BENEFITS FROM PUTTING OUR
BUSINESS COMPETITOR INTO OPERATION. IF THESE CONCEPTS ARE
ACCEPTABLE, IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO BREAK THE CONFERENCE OUT
OF THE INCIPIENT DEADLOCK IN COMMITTEE I AND TO BEGIN TO
WORK TOWARD POSSIBLE RESOLUTION OF THE MAIN ISSUES." CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, SEABED, MINING, MEETINGS, BRIEFING MATERIALS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE183720
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: TOKADA:LB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840140-1991
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780737/aaaabfaf.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2e58a66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1936748
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S COMMENTS ON TOT IN 1976
TAGS: PLOS, US, SG, BR, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (THOMPSON-FLORES, SERGIO MARTINS), (GUERREIRO, RAMIRO SARAIRA)
To: SAO PAULO BRASILIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2e58a66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014